

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB45
DESIGNATION OF A PORTION OF I-70 AS THE "JOHN CARLIN HIGHWAY"
FEBRUARY 2, 2017

Chair Petersen, Vice Chair Doll, Ranking Member Petty and Committee Members:

It is my honor to offer testimony in support of SB45, a bill to designate a portion of I-70 between Abilene and Salina as the "John Carlin Highway". I stand in appreciation of the legislative services staff, reviser, and KDOT staff who have been helpful in drafting this bill.

You will also hear testimony from Attorney Bruce Kent and notice a booklet in front of you outlining Governor Carlin's contributions to this state and nation.

This is my first time on this committee and my first time to propose a highway designation, aside from my co-sponsorship of Representative Ed O'Malley's bill to designate the "Bill Snyder Highway" into Manhattan. Designations such as the "Bill Snyder Highway" and the one I am proposing give us the opportunity to create a historical record of the contributions and sacrifices made by key figures in our state. Often, those who have been so honored have passed from our midst. Today, we have a chance to pay living tribute to a former Governor who has continued to work for our state and nation in many diverse and important capacities since his term as Governor.

I would like to highlight some of John Carlin's key accomplishments. They are included among many others which are listed in the booklet:

- *Kansas House of Representatives, 1971-1979
- *Speaker of the House, 1977-79
- *Kansas Governor, 1979-1987
- *Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administrations, 1995-2005
- *Professor/Executive-In-Residence, KSU 2005-present
- *Various work in the areas of farming and technology
- *A host of boards and commissions including the National Governors Association, the Global Agriculture Development Initiative Advisory Group, the Kansas Bioscience Authority, the National Digital Strategy Advisory Board, the KSU Foundation Board of Trustees, Leadership Kansas, and the Kansas Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

One of the major contributions John Carlin has made to Kansas is his work with the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas. As our National Archivist, he supported all Presidential libraries and, specifically, helped to form a formal relationship between the Eisenhower Library and Kansas State University.

In my quest to find the best location along I-70 to make this designation I considered several options. Because of John's connection with the Eisenhower Library and his farming and rural heritage near Salina, the most fitting location, in my mind, is the section from Abilene to Salina. I realize that we will need to make some adjustment to this portion of the highway, and that adjustment is accomplished in Section 2 of the bill.

I am happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.